

to an outstanding officer of the U.S. Navy.

Captain George Street, a World War II submarine war hero and Medal of Honor winner, proudly served our country in the United States Navy for over 39 years. Sadly, he passed away on February 28, in Andover, Massachusetts, his home for many years after his retirement from the Navy in 1966.

Captain Street was a native of Richmond, Virginia, and a 1937 graduate of the United States Naval Academy. He served on two naval surface combat ships, the USS *Concord* and the USS *Arkansas*, before reporting to submarine school. His first submarine assignment was in the USS *Gar* where he made nine wartime patrols in the Pacific. On his very first patrol, as the submarine's Torpedo Data Computer Operator, his leadership and courage earned him the Silver Star for actions in which the *Gar* sank over 10,000 tons of enemy shipping.

On a subsequent patrol, he earned a second Silver Star as the *Gar*'s Assistant Approach Officer. Operating in Japanese-controlled waters, he played a vital role in sinking three enemy ships, and was also instrumental in enabling the *Gar* to evade a barrage of enemy countermeasures and return safely to port. Captain Street continued to build upon his brilliant service as the war went on.

In November 1944, he took command of the USS *Tirante* and on March 3, 1945, he led the submarine out of Pearl Harbor on her first war patrol. Within a month, Captain Street and the crew of the *Tirante* sank three enemy ships off the shores of Japan and survived a seven-hour counterattack by Japanese ships. Captain Street continued his patrol in the East China Sea, near Japan's southern coast, wreaking havoc on Japanese shipping.

On April 14, 1945, the *Tirante* began a major battle that would earn the crew a Presidential Unit Citation and result in President Harry S. Truman awarding Captain Street the Congressional Medal of Honor. Receiving intelligence that a major Japanese transport ship and escort vessels had anchored in a harbor on Quelpart Island off the coast of Korea, Captain Street took the fight to the enemy. He surfaced the *Tirante* and manned his gun crews since the *Tirante* would have to fight her way out on the surface if attacked. He maneuvered to penetrate the mined, shoal-obstructed, and radar-protected harbor. He evaded enemy patrols and, once in the inner harbor, fired two torpedoes into a large Japanese ammunition ship, completely destroying it. The resultant explosion revealed the *Tirante*'s position to the enemy. In the light of the burning ammunition ship, two Japanese Mikura class frigates spotted the *Tirante* and attacked. Quickly bringing his submarine to bear on the leading frigate, Captain Street

counterattacked with a torpedo, and then swung his boat around and fired his last torpedo at the other frigate. Clearing the harbor at emergency full-speed-ahead, he slipped undetected along the shoreline and safely evaded a depth charge attack by a pursuing patrol. The ammunition ship and both frigates had been sunk.

Captain Street was awarded the Navy Cross for another bold action two months later. On June 11, 1945, the *Tirante* sank several hostile freighters and other vessels, then moved through treacherous shallow waters into the heart of Nagasaki Harbor, where he sank another Japanese ship and destroyed docking facilities vital to the enemy. The *Tirante* surfaced and escaped from the harbor under hostile gunfire from ship and shore batteries.

After World War II, Captain Street continued to serve with distinction as the commanding officer of three naval surface ships, as a submarine division commander, and as the commander of a submarine group. On his retirement in 1966, he became an active member of numerous local, state, and national veterans organizations and was a popular speaker at patriotic and community functions in Massachusetts and New England. Captain Street often helped veterans and veterans organizations, and had a strong interest in talking with and inspiring school children.

Captain Street's dedication and service to his country and community were extraordinary. I am grateful, as I know the entire nation is, for his lifetime of outstanding service. He was a great American hero, role model, and citizen. He will be missed, but his memory and example will live forever.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts is recognized.

Mr. KENNEDY. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. DASCHLE and Mr. KENNEDY pertaining to the introduction of S. 2541 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

#### ELIMINATION OF COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, we have just witnessed this week another example of indifference by Congress to the needs of lower-wage and hard-working American workers. While our minimum wage bill still languishes in the Congress in spite of all our efforts, the House Appropriations Committee just passed a bill that will eliminate the cost-of-living adjustments for the low-wage workers in the legislative branch. They cut the COLAs of the Library of Congress, the Government Printing Office, and other vital congressional agencies. This is after the Members of Congress got a cost-of-living increase of \$4,600 last year.

The Republican leadership has cut out a COLA increase for these workers

who happen to be the lowest-paid Congressional workers. If you are a truck driver for the Government Printing Office, you are out of luck. Again, when it comes to the staffs of the Members, they made sure their interests were protected. Drawing that kind of a line with workers who work for this institution is absolutely scandalous.

What is it about our Republican friends that they believe they have to be so harsh with the lowest-income working families in this country, refusing to permit us to vote on a pay increase, an increase in the minimum wage, of 50 cents this year and 50 cents next year? They have taken convoluted parliamentary tricks to block us from considering that, and then we find their own priorities are that this institution takes \$4,600 for its COLA increase and cuts out the COLA increase for the lowest-paid workers who are serving the Congress. That is wrong. I hope the House of Representatives will change it. I hope it will not be tolerated.

There will be an effort on the Senate floor to make amends because that is wrong and unjust. We are not going to permit it to stand.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. VOINOVICH). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator from Wisconsin is recognized.

#### TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2000—CONFERENCE REPORT—Continued

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I want to take time to share some excerpts taken from the National Intelligence Estimate 99-17D of January 2000, which frames infectious diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, as a national security threat to the United States.

This is, obviously, pursuant to the discussion we have been having most of the day with regard to the inadequacy of the African Growth and Opportunity Act with regard to the provisions concerning HIV/AIDS in Africa and, in particular, the very serious error of the conference committee in eliminating the Feinstein-Feingold amendment concerning HIV/AIDS.

This report represents an important initiative on the part of the Intelligence Community to consider the national security dimension of a nontraditional threat. It responds to a growing concern by senior US leaders about the implications—in terms of health, economics, and national security—of the growing global infectious disease threat. The dramatic increase in drug-resistant microbes, combined with the lag in development of new antibiotics, the rise of megacities with severe health care deficiencies, environmental degradation, and the